Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* The Diwan-President will kindly note this. I have looked into a few books. I shall exhibit those books here some time later. I have sent in a cut motion also on this subject.

Mr. President: You can discuss the details at that time.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether Government have any objection to have some members on the Board of Studies elected by this Council? That alone will give weight to the Board.

Mr. President: The Board of Studies is nominated by the Government from among the Text Book Committee, is it not?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Some members are nominated from the Text Book Committee.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* In the present Board of Studies, there is not a single member of this Council.

Mr. President: Make a note of it.

SCHOOLS—SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS—LOCAL SUPPLY OF.

65. Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the firm or firms that supply scientific apparatus to the schools in the State;

(*b*) are they foreign or Indian make;

(*c*) if they are of foreign make, has the Government made any attempt to ascertain whether Indian made articles of the type required are available;

(*d*) have the Government any objection to order for Indian made articles if they can be obtained?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):*

(*a*) Hargolal & Sons, Ambala.

The Oriental Scientific Apparatus Workshop, Ambala.

Janarthanan & Co., Madras.

The Central Scientific Supplies & Co., Madras.

These are the important firms which have been supplying scientific apparatus to the Sirkar Schools in the State for some years past.

(*b*) The articles are generally both of foreign and Indian make.

(*c*) Most of the Indian firms are more stockists than manufacturers. As a rule when orders are placed with Indian firms they

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take care to see that in all possible cases articles of Indian manufacture are supplied, and only in unavoidable cases do they supply foreign made articles. As orders are placed for schools only with Indian firms the precaution cited has, therefore, never been necessary. The complaint is generally about the supply of too many things of Indian make of bad quality.

(*d*) No hard and fast rule can be adopted in the case of scientific apparatus as long as articles of Indian make do not come up to the required standard and efficiency and prices compare favourably with foreign goods.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* May I know Sir, whether Government are aware of the existence of the Dialbagh Factory at Agra ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* We publish our requirements and call for tenders. Up to now we have been accepting the lowest tender though in one case it landed us in difficulties. All the firms shown in the answer are selected out of the tenderers. We don't keep a list. We are depending upon those who tender.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* Have you seen demonstration of the scientific apparatus manufactured at the Dialbagh Factory at Agra ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Hargolal & Sons, Ambala, are manufacturing some of these apparatus. But in the case of chemical balances, microscope, etc., we have to go in for foreign firms.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* Chemical balances are manufactured by this factory.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* In fact some of the articles manufactured in these factories, had to be returned to them as the teaching staff say that they are not sufficiently accurate.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* If the Dialbagh factory offers to supply and offer for inspection of the department the articles manufactured by them, may I know whether Government will have any objection in purchasing them ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* They will have to give the lowest quotation. If they come up to the standard and if their apparatus give no complaint, let them approach the suppliers.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* Sir, my only object is to bring to the notice of the Government that there are some Indian manufacturers coming to the British standard and that they may be preferred to foreign companies.

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